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30 JUN 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA SUMMARY-ACTIVITIES  
(July 1 to December 31, 1949)

1. Your memorandum of April 21, 1950 forwarding copy #10 of a summary report on the activities of the Communist Party, USA from July 1 to December 31, 1949, has indeed been appreciated and the attachment has been studied with extreme interest. The following comments are transmitted for your information.

2. The summary reference report represents a unique compilation of confidential as well as overtly available information on the political activities of a Communist Party. It exceeds in thoroughness and detail practically every report on similar subjects produced currently by any major foreign intelligence agency, and can be regarded as a model report in every respect. The reference report furnishes a welcome chance to study the organization, management and activities of a Communist Party at close range. The chapters on Nationalism, Security Measures and Infiltration of Labor are particularly interesting. It may be worth noting that the breaking up of basic Party organizations into small groups which are not permitted to maintain horizontal liaison, is a security measure adopted by many foreign Parties operating under "illegal conditions."

3. Although realizing the time and effort expended on the preparation of the reference report, we should like to inquire whether it would not be possible to prepare a report of another type which would greatly benefit the operations of this Agency. As you know, the procurement of secret information on foreign soil, particularly on the activities of foreign Communist Parties, is a difficult undertaking. In view of prevailing limitations, this Agency is not in a position to apply the full weight of investigation in a manner comparable to the operation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The approach of this Agency is, by necessity, selective and strategic. Concerning the problem of Communist Parties this Agency must attempt to penetrate the most significant segments of Communist Party organizations abroad, and must therefore study the mechanics and operations of such Party organizations in detail. Consequently it would be greatly appreciated if you could give us the opportunity to study the most sensitive portions of the apparatus of the CPUSA, by preparing special, detailed reports

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on the current and past functions, activities, organizational methods  
and administrative practices of the National Secretariat, the National  
Organization Commission, the National Review Commission and the Nation-  
al Labor Department of the Communist Party, USA.

R. H. HILLENKOETTER  
REAR ADMIRAL, USN  
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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Orig + 1 - Landed to Mr D. Loach 9/30/50.